Numb. 110

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

——*Quæ Lucis Miſeris tam dira Cupido?* Virg.

From *Tueſday December* 20. to *Thurſday December* 22. 1709.

Sheer-Lane, December 21.

AS ſoon as I had placed my ſelf in my Chair of Judicature, I ordered my Clerk Mr. *Lillie* to read to the Aſſembly (who were gathered together according to Notice) a certain Declaration, by way of Charge, to open the Purpoſe of my Seſſion, which tended only to this Explanation, That as other Courts were often called to demand the Execution of Perſons dead in Law, ſo this was held to give the laſt Orders relating to thoſe who are dead in Reaſon. The Sollicitor of the new Company of Upholders near the *Hay-Market* appeared in Behalf of that uſeful Society, and brought in an Accuſation of a young Woman, who her ſelf ſtood at the Bar before me. Mr. *Lillie* read her Indictment, which was in Subſtance, That whereas Mrs. *Rebecca Pinduſt*, of the Pariſh of St. *Martin in the Fields*, had, by the Uſe of one Inſtrument called a Looking-glaſs, and by the further Uſe of certain Attire, made either of Cambrick, Muſlin, or other Linnen Wares, upon her Head, attained to ſuch an evil Art and magical Force in the Motion of her Eyes and Turn of her Countenance, that ſhe the ſaid *Rebecca* had put to Death ſeveral young Men of the ſaid Pariſh; and that the ſaid young Men had acknowledged in certain Papers, commonly called Love-Letters, (which were produced in Court, gilded on the Edges, and ſealed with a particular Wax, with certain amorous and enchanting Words wrought upon the ſaid Seals) that they died for the ſaid *Rebecca*: And whereas the ſaid *Rebecca* perſiſted in the ſaid evil Practice; this Way of Life the ſaid Society conſtrued to be, according to former Edicts, a State of Death, and demanded an Order for the Interment of the ſaid *Rebecca*.

I looked upon the Maid with great Humanity, and deſired her to make Anſwer to what was ſaid againſt her. She ſaid, It was indeed true, that ſhe had practiſed all the Arts and Means ſhe could to diſpoſe of her ſelf happily in Marriage, but thought ſhe did not come under the Cenſure expreſs'd in my Writings for the ſame; and humbly hoped, I would not condemn her for the Ignorance of her Accuſers, who, according to their own Words, had rather repreſented her killing than dead. She further alledged, That the Expreſſions mentioned in the Papers written to her, were become meer Words, and that ſhe had been always ready to marry any of thoſe who ſaid they died for her; but that they made their Eſcape as ſoon as they found themſelves pitied or believed. She ended her Diſcourſe, by deſiring I would for the future ſettle the Meaning of the Words, *I Die*, in Letters of Love.

Mrs. *Pinduſt* behaved her ſelf with ſuch an Air of Innocence, that ſhe eaſily gained Credit, and was acquitted. Upon which Occaſion, I gave it as a ſtanding Rule, That any Perſons, who in any Letter, Billet, or Diſcourſe, ſhould tell a Woman he died for her, ſhould, if ſhe pleaſed, be obliged to live with her, or be immediately interr'd, upon ſuch their own Confeſſion, without Bail or Mainprize.

It happened, that the very next who was brought before me was one of her Admirers, who was indicted upon that very Head. A Letter which he acknowledged to be his own Hand was read; in which were the following Words; *Cruel Creature, I die for you.* It was obſervable, that he took Snuff all the Time his Accuſation was reading. I ask'd him, How he came to uſe theſe Words, if he were not a dead Man? He told me, He was in Love with the Lady, and did not know any other Way of telling her ſo; and that all his Acquaintance took the ſame Method. Tho' I was moved with Compaſſion towards him by reaſon of the Weakneſs of his Parts, yet for Example's-ſake, I was forced to anſwer, Your Sentence ſhall be a Warning to all the reſt of your Companions not to tell Lies for want of Wit. Upon this, he began to beat his Snuff-box with a very ſawcy Air; and opening it again, Faith *Iſaac*, ſaid he, thou art a very unaccountable old Fellow-- Prithee, who gave thee Power of Life and Death? What-a-Pox haſt thou to do with Ladies and Lovers? I ſuppoſe thou wouldſt have a Man be in Company with his Miſtreſs and ſay nothing to her. Doſt thou call breaking a Jeſt telling a Lie? Ha! Is that thy Wiſdom, old Stiffrump, ha? He was going on with this inſipid Common-place Mirth, ſometimes opening his Box, ſometimes ſhutting it, then viewing the Picture on the Lid, and then the Workmanſhip of the Hinge, when, in the midſt of his Eloquence, I ordered his Box to be taken from him; upon which he was immediately ſtruck ſpeechleſs, and carried off ſtone-dead.

The next who appeared, was a hale old Fellow of Sixty. He was brought in by his Relations, who deſired Leave to bury him. Upon requiring a diſtinct Account of the Priſoner, a credible Witneſs depoſed, That he always roſe at Ten of the Clock, played with his Cat till Twelve, ſmoaked Tobacco till One, was at Dinner till Two, then took another Pipe, played at Backgammon till Six, talked of one Madam *Frances*, an old Miſtriſs of his, till Eight, repeated the ſame Account at the Tavern till Ten, then returned Home, took t'other Pipe, and then to Bed. I asked him what he had to ſay for himſelf? As to what (ſaid he) they mention concerning Madam *Frances*— I did not care for hearing a *Canterbury* Tale, and therefore thought my ſelf ſeaſonably interrupted by a young Gentleman who appeared in the Behalf of the old Man, and prayed an Arreſt of Judgment; for that he the ſaid young Man held certain Lands by his the ſaid old Man's Life. Upon this, the Sollicitor of the Upholders took an Occaſion to demand him alſo, and thereupon produced ſeveral Evidences that witneſſed to his Life and Converſation. It appeared, That each of them divided their Hours in Matters of equal Moment and Importance to themſelves and to the Publick. They roſe at the ſame Hour: While the old Man was playing with his Cat, the young One was looking out of his Win-

dow

dow; while the old Man was ſmoaking his Pipe, the young Man was rubbing his Teeth; while One was at Dinner, the Other was dreſſing; while One was at Backgammon, the Other was at Dinner; while the old Fellow was talking of Madam *Frances*, the young One was either at Play, or Toaſting Women whom he never converſed with. The only Difference was, that the young Man had never been good for any Thing; the old Man, a Man of Worth before he knew Madam *Frances*. Upon the Whole, I ordered them to be both interred together, with Inſcriptions proper to their Characters, ſignifying, That the old Man died in the Year 1689. and was buried in the Year 1709. And over the young One it was ſaid, That he departed this World in the 25th Year of his Death.

The next Claſs of Criminals, were Authors in Proſe and Verſe. Thoſe of them who had produced any ſtill-born Work, were immediately diſmiſſed to their Burial, and were followed by others, who, notwithſtanding ſome ſprightly Iſſue in their Life-time, had given Proofs of their Death by ſome Poſthumous Children, that bore no Reſemblance to their elder Brethren. As for thoſe who were the Fathers of a mixed Progeny, provided always they could prove the laſt to be a live Child, they eſcaped with Life, but not without Loſs of Limbs; for in this Caſe, I was ſatisfied with Amputation of the Parts which were mortified.

Theſe were followed by a great Crowd of ſuper-annuated Benchers of the Inns of Court, Senior Fellows of Colleges, and defunct Stateſmen; all whom I ordered to be decimated indifferently, allowing the reſt a Reprieve for one Year, with a Promiſe of a free Pardon in Caſe of Reſuſcitation.

There were ſtill great Multitudes to be examined; but finding it very late, I adjourned the Court; not without the ſecret Pleaſure that I had done my Duty, and furniſhed out an handſome Execution.

Going out of the Court, I received a Letter, informing me, That in Purſuance of the Edict of Juſtice in one of my late Viſions, all thoſe of the Fair Sex began to appear pregnant who had ran any Hazard of it; as was manifeſt by a particular Swelling in the Petticoats of ſeveral Ladies in and about this great City. I muſt confeſs, I do not attribute the Riſing of this Part of the Dreſs to this Occaſion, yet muſt own, that I am very much diſpoſed to be offended with ſuch a new and unaccountable Faſhion. I ſhall however pronounce nothing upon it, till I have examined all that can be ſaid for and againſt it. And in the mean Time, think fit to give this Notice to the fair Ladies who are now making up their Winter-Suits, that they may abſtain from all Dreſſes of that Kind, till they ſhall find what Judgment will be paſſed upon them; for it would very much trouble me, that they ſhould put themſelves to an unneceſſary Expence; and could not but think my ſelf to blame, if I ſhould hereafter forbid them the Wearing of ſuch Garments, when they have laid out Money upon them, without having given them any previous Admonition.

N. B. *A Letter of the 16th Inſtant about one of the 5th, will be anſwered according to the Deſire of the Party, which he will ſee in few Days.*

*** Whereas I am informed, That there is a ſpurious and very incorrect Edition of theſe Papers printed in a ſmall Volume; Theſe are to give Notice, That there is in the Preſs, and will ſpeedily be publiſhed, a very neat Edition, fitted for the Pocket, on extraordinary good Paper, a new Brevier Letter, like the Elzevir Editions, and adorned with ſeveral Cuts by the beſt Artiſts. To which is added, a Preface, Index, and many Notes, for the better Explanation of theſe Lucubrations. By the Author. Who has reviſed, amended, and made many Additions to the Whole.

N. B. Notice ſhall be given in this Paper, when I conclude my Firſt Volume.

Advertiſements.

Juſt publiſh'd,

*** **The Foundation of the preſent Government defended.** In Two Parts. With a Poſtſcript, relating to *The beſt Anſwer ever was made.* By Benj. Hoadly, A. M. Price 1 s. ſtitch'd, and 1 s. 6 d. bound. Reflections upon the Idolatry of the Jeſuits, and other Affairs relating to Religion in China. Sent in a Letter from a Gentleman at the Hague to Dr. F. Atterbury. Price 6 d. Both printed for T. Curll at the Dial and Bible againſt St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet-ſtreet, and ſold by N. Cliffe at the Golden Candleſtick the lower End of Cheapſide.

Juſt publiſh'd,

*** **The Glorious and Succeſsful Campaign of his** Grace the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy for the Year 1709. Wherein is diſplayed the remarkable Sieges of Tournay and Mons; a Proſpect of the Battle of Blaregnies, near Mons, between the Confederates and French, together with an exact Plan of the ſame; as alſo the Plans of the Town and Citadel of Tournay and Mons; to which is added, a Plan of the Battle of Pultowa, between the Swedes and the Muſcovites. Printed on 3 Sheets of Imperial Paper; being 4 Foot long, and two Foot 8 Inches Deep. To which is annex'd, an Hiſtorical Account of the Campaign in the Netherlands. Price 2 s. Sold by P. Overton at the Golden-Buck againſt St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet ſtreet, and H. Overton at the White-Horſe without Newgate.

This Day is publiſh'd,

*** **The Divine Rights of the Britiſh Nation and** Conſtitution vindicated, in Remarks on the ſeveral Papers publiſhed againſt the Reverend Mr. Hoadly's Conſiderations on the Biſhop of Exeter's Sermons; viz. Anſwer to Mr. Hoadly, by the Biſhop of Exeter. Vindication of the Biſhop, by Mr. O---gh. Tom a Bedlam, by L. Mil--ne. Revolution no Rebellion, by Mr. P--te, Laſt Anſwer, &c. by Lef--y. In a Letter to a Noble Peer of Great Britain. Sold by J. Baker in Pater-noſter Row. Where may be had Beſs o' Bedlam's Love to her Brother Tom, with a Word in Behalf of poor Brother Ben. Hoadly.

THIS Chryſtal Coſmetick, approv'd of by the Worthy Dr. Paul Chamberline, viz. by waſhing Morning or Evening, cures all red Faces, proceeding from what Cauſe ſoever: It takes off all Morphews, Pimples, and Freckles; it's of a ſoft Nature, cleanſing and adorning the Face and Hands of both Sexes in a very beautiful Manner; and may be uſ'd with as much Safety as Milk, having in it no Mercury (ſo frequently made Uſe of) or any other Thing that may be prejudicial to the Body, being the beſt of this Nature now extant. The Price of the largeſt Bottle 6 s. the leſſer 3 s. To be ſold at Mr. Allcroft's at the Blue-Coat Boy, a Toyſhop, againſt the Royal Exchange, Cornhil; at Mrs. Stephens's, the Comb under St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleetſtreet; at Mr. Brecknock's, Milliner over againſt St. James's-ſtreet, Piccadilly; at the Unicorn in Cheapſide near Woodſtreet. Note, to prevent Counterfeits, each ſingle Bottle with Directions, is tied and ſealed with this Coat of Arms, being a Frett, with a Lion Rampant in a Canton.

Juſt publiſh'd,

*** **Conſiderations on Peace and War, under the fol**lowing Heads: 1. Whether it be the Intereſt of the Allies to conſent to a Peace in this Conjuncture. 2. Upon what Conditions a laſting Peace may be expected. 3. The Means for obtaining ſuch Conditions. Price 1 s. The Proceedings of the Lords and Commons in the Year 1628, againſt Roger Manwaring, Doctor in Divinity, (the Sacheverel of thoſe Days) for two Seditious High-flying Sermons, entituled, Religion and Allegiance. Price 2 d. Both ſold by B. Bragge, at the Raven in Pater-Noſter-Row.

*** **The famous Medicine for curing the Cholick,** that has for ſome Time been ſold by Mr. Rogers, Bookſeller in Fleet-ſtreet, at 2 s. and 6 d. the Paper, has lately cur'd a Gentlewoman near Tunbridge of above 70 Years old, who had been afflicted with that Diſtemper at Times for above 40 Years, and for above half a Year laſt paſt had it without any Intermiſſion, as appears by a Letter from a Friend of the Gentlewoman's ſent to Mr. Rogers, dated July 9. 1709. which is to be ſeen at his Shop by any one that deſires it.

*** **A New Set of Cuts for the Common Prayer,** 55 in Number, far exceeding any done in Great Britain before. Engraven by J. Sturt: And ſold by him in Golden-Lion-Court Aldersgate-ſtreet; R. Whitledge in Ave-Mary-Lane; J. Morphew, and J. Hazard, near Stationers-Hall. Pr. 3 s.

*** **A Supplement to the New Verſion of Pſalms,** by Dr. Brady, and Mr. Tate; containing, the Pſalms in particular Meaſures; the uſual Hymns, Creed, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, Holy Sacrament, &c. with Gloria Patri's, and Tunes (Treble and Baſe) proper to each of them, and all the reſt of the Pſalms. The Sixth Edition, Corrected; and much enlarged; With the Addition of Plain Inſtructions for all thoſe who are deſirous to learn or improve themſelves in Pſalmody; near 30 new Tunes, compoſed by ſeveral of the beſt Maſters; and a Table of Pſalms ſuited to the Feaſts and Faſts of the Church, &c. With Tables of all the Pſalms of the New, Old, and Dr. Patrick's Verſions, directing what Tunes are fitted for each Pſalm. The Whole being a Compleat Pſalmody. Uſeful for Teachers and Learners of either Verſion. Printed, and Sold by James Holland, at the Bible and Ball, at the Weſt-End of St. Paul's.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where *Advertiſements* are taken in.